



Arbitrator News

Monthly newsletter for the Juvenile Arbitration Program of
Aiken, Bamberg and Barnwell Counties — October 2021

Bill Weeks, Solicitor
Serena McDaniel, Assistant Solicitor
Nina Spinelli, Director

Newsletter Date: October 2021

Did You Know:

Youth drug abuse is a high-profile public health concern, with at least **1-in-8** teenagers abusing an illicit substance in the last year.

- Drug use among 8th grader rose **61%** between 2016 and 2020.
- By 12th grade, **62%** of teenagers have abused alcohol.
- **50%** of teenagers have misused a drug at least once.
- **43%** of college students use illicit drugs.
- **86%** of teenagers know someone who smokes, drinks, or uses drugs during the school day.

To learn more about the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, please visit:
drugabusestatistics.org/



In September, the Juvenile Arbitration Program participated with the annual Aiken County Suicide Prevention Summit, enjoyed volunteering with Wholespire Yoga in the Park, and attended the Cultivating Hope in the Darkness Program hosted in partnership with the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office.

Thank you to all of our volunteers and community partners who make the Juvenile Arbitration Program in the Second Circuit so successful,

Arbitrator Nancy Marks

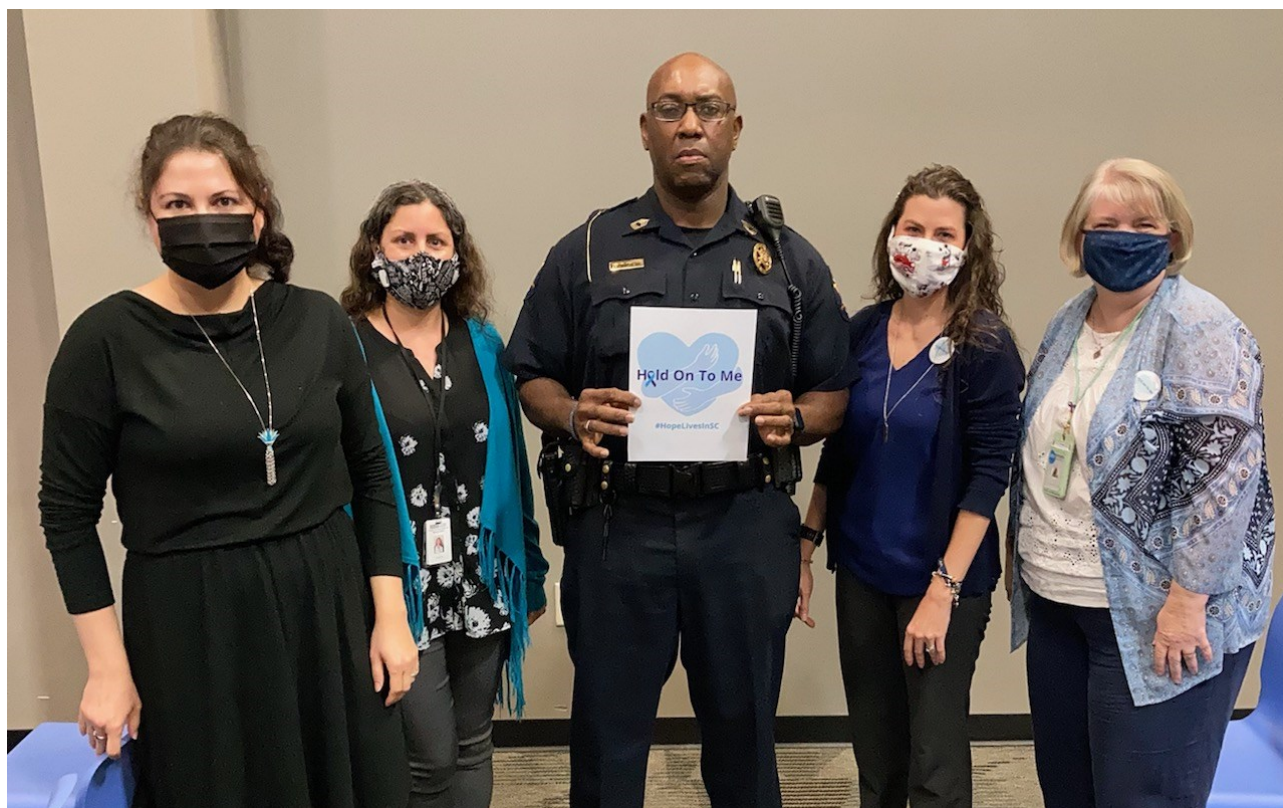


Nancy Marks has volunteered with the Juvenile Arbitration Program for nearly two years. Nancy has worked hard to arrange community service days and help organize the Aiken Suicide Prevention Summit. Thank you Nancy for all of your support.

Cultivating Hope in the Darkness

Thank to you First Sgt. Kirkland with the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office for organizing the Cultivating Hope in the Darkness workshop on September 11, 2021. Partners from the faith community, mental health, drug and alcohol, and law enforcement all met to discuss ways to cultivate hope as we recognized the dramatic suicide increase in South Carolina from 2018 to 2019.

Thank to Jennifer Butler with the Department of Mental Health for leading the conversation, along with Tamara Smith (Executive Director for Aiken Barnwell Mental Health), Lacinda McCormack (Program Director for the Poly Best Center), Helen Cotton (First Responders Program), and, Bianca Otterbein (Clinical Director with Aiken Barnwell Mental Health) for presenting. Nina Spinelli with Juvenile Arbitration attended this wonderful community event.



Cultivating Hope in the Darkness



Mentoring Youth Impacted by the Opioid Crisis

On Tuesday September 28, 2021 from 2:00—3:30 PM the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is offering a webinar on Mentoring Youth Impacted by the Opioid Crisis.

While we are still learning about the wide and deep impacts of the pandemic, increased isolation, and major changes in how we all operate in school, at home, and in the community, we know that the opioid crisis continues to affect youth and their families across the country.



**NATIONAL
MENTORING
RESOURCE CENTER**
A Program of **OJJDP**

In addition, substance use, misuse, and addiction of any kind affect many of the young people we work with. In this webinar, we'll look at the ways in which substance use is often a trauma response for young people and how it is trauma producing when it's a challenge for youths' families and loved ones. To register, visit: [mentoring-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lf-itqDMuGtaFdpB49g_nQMzKn3MF5VrI](https://mentoring-org.zoom.us/j/9201f-itqDMuGtaFdpB49g_nQMzKn3MF5VrI)

Blessing Boxes



Thank you to Domestic Violence and Expungement Paralegal Kelly Jo Lynch and Family Court Coordinator Julia Smith for their help in keeping the local Blessing Box full!

Youth participating in Arbitration often donate food to fulfill their community service assignments.

Community Sanction



RIVERS BRIDGE STATE PARK

Coffee & Cake

It's campfire cooking civil war style at Rivers Bridge. Join us at the Park Office for a soldiers breakfast around the fire as we make coffee (or tea, hot chocolate) and Johnnie Cakes.

September 24, 2021
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
325 State Park Road, Ehrhardt,

To register, e-mail
nspinelli@aikencountysc.gov

Richland County Sheriff's Department



Deputy Monica Parker is the new Director of the Youth Arbitration Program for the 5th Circuit Youth Services Division of the Richland County Sheriff's Department. In September, Nina Spinelli with the 2nd Circuit Juvenile Arbitration Program met with the new team.

In addition to serving the adults of Richland County, deputies under the Youth Services unit of the Uniform Division help youth through a variety of programs.

Teens can join programs such as the Junior Explorers or the Explorers Post 601, which aims to develop and shape young people into becoming responsible adults and exposing them to the law enforcement field by teaching them discipline, leadership and accountability.

To learn more about their programs, please visit: <https://rcsd.net>

State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report



The Office of Special Education Services (OSES) is developing its new State Performance Plan (SPP). This SPP will set their focus for the next 6 years. This is an opportunity to hear from educators, families, and community members on the direction we take to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. A series of recorded presentations explain where OSES are and what they hope to do as it relates to each IDEA performance or compliance indicator below.

Please listen to the recordings that best fit you and send OSES feedback through each Indicator survey. You will also find downloadable stakeholder presentation pdfs for each indicator in English and Spanish soon. These may be used for reference as you complete the surveys.

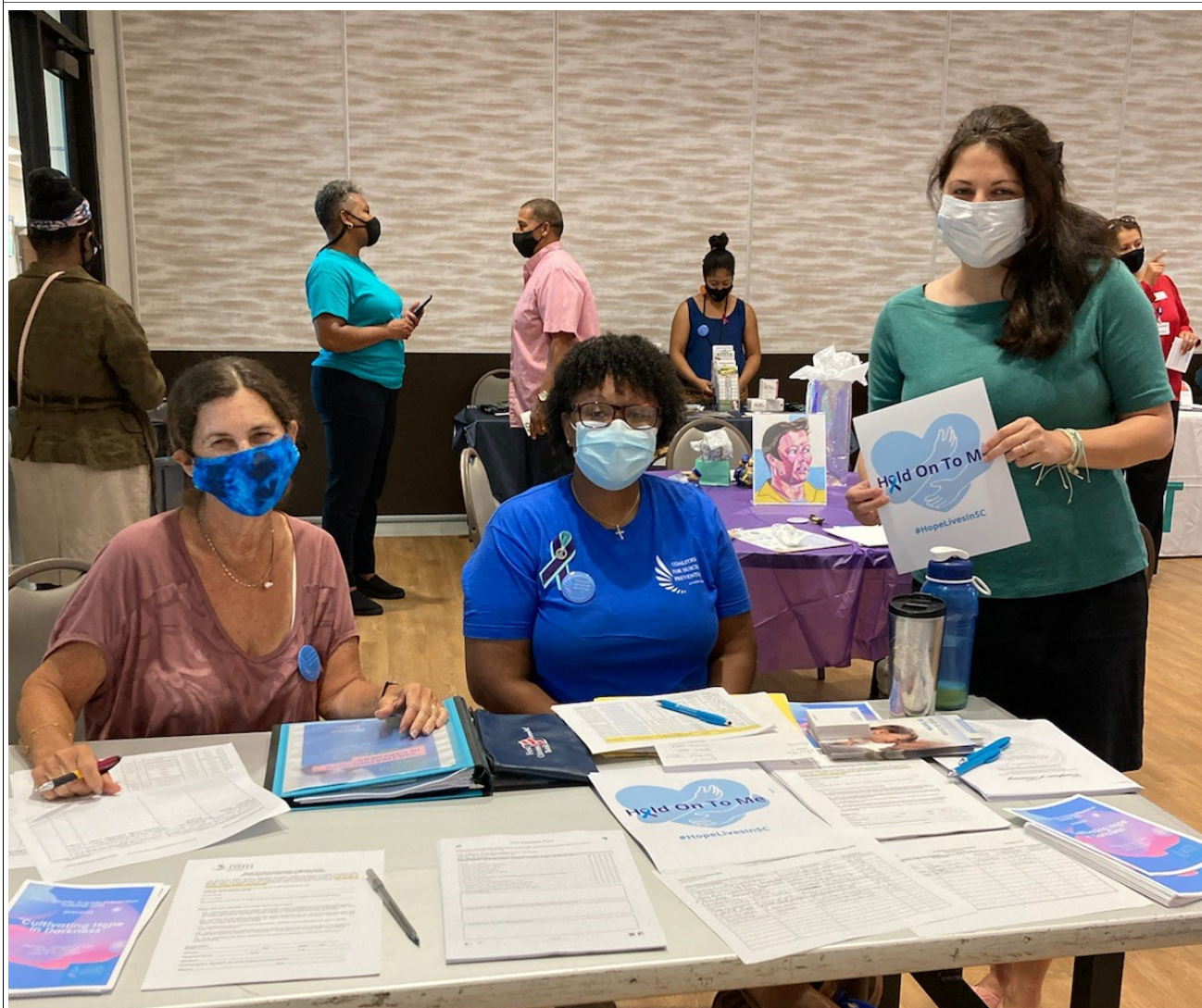
To listen to the videos, please visit: <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/special-education-services/state-performance-plan-annual-performance-report-spp-apr/>

To submit input for additional indicators, please visit: https://scoses.formstack.com/forms/spp_apr_stakeholder_input_copy

Suicide Prevention Summit



Suicide Prevention Summit



Domestic Violence Training

TOGETHER, WE CAN END THE ABUSE.

FIGHT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Help end the silence. Report it if you see it.

*In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month the
IPV Assistance Coordinators of the Columbia VA Health
Care System and the Ralph H. Johnson Medical Center
Align to invite you to the 2nd IPV Virtual Summit. Learn
more about VA services including IPV, Whole Health,
Military Sexual Trauma, Veteran Justice Outreach, Peer
Support, Substance Treatment and Recovery and VA
Payment for Emergency Community Care*

October 13 - 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Microsoft Teams

**TO REGISTER E-MAIL:
LLORA MILLER, LISW-CP (LLORA.MILLER@VA.GOV)
COLUMBIA VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

Aiken Technical College Program



Aiken Technical College

South Carolina Manufacturing Certification (SCMC) FREE training to the first 15 accepted applicants!



Class Date:

October 4 - December 14, 2021
Monday through Thursday
5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

For more information, contact
Kendall Carter at 803-508-7365 or
carterk@atc.edu

What is SCMC?

SCMC is an entry-level Advanced Manufacturing Certification program. The program consists of 160 hours of state-funded training in the following areas

- Safety
- Quality Practices & Measurement
- Manufacturing Processes & Production
- Maintenance Awareness

which lead to an MSSC Certified Production Technician certification.

Additional certifications awarded upon successful completion:

- OSHA 10
- Yellow Belt Lean Training
- Snap-on Tools
- ManuFirstSC
- Forklift

Who qualifies for this free training?

Qualified applicants are residents of South Carolina and are looking to start a career in advanced manufacturing.

Applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Hold at least a high school diploma or GED
- Be committed to completing the program

Why become ATCMC Certified?

Employers are **ready to fill** these positions. Average salary is \$12-\$15/hour and, in some places, higher.

- Gives exposure to various types of manufacturing skills, levels, and positions
- Prepares students for a high-demand career in the manufacturing industry
- Opportunities to sharpen your employability skills
- Opportunities to attend "invitation only" job fairs

Corporate Sponsors:



*Enrolling in and completing this program does not guarantee employment.

Community Sanction Opportunity

TAKE ACTION SC • Student Ambassador Program



What is it?

Take Action SC, an environmental education program provided by DHEC, is introducing a student ambassador program centered on sustainability. This program helps high school students learn what they can do to be an important part in a sustainable future. It will help them develop work plans to lead school and community efforts for a sustainable environment.

What's in it for the students?

Students will have the opportunity to work on a college level, learning and developing skills in project management, public speaking, communication and leadership. Each student will be expected to take part in a sustainable project by creating a plan and putting into motion. They are ambassadors for sustainability.

Join the program.

High school students just need to sign up and choose several potential projects. University of South Carolina (UofSC) K-12 Outreach (with Sustainable Carolina) students will coach ambassadors and plan the steps to complete the project during the school year. Ambassadors will use project planning tools developed by the UofSC students.



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER OR-2130 9/20

Project Ideas

- **Increase awareness of sustainable ways of living at school and at home** to the student body, staff and others.
- **Conduct an audit of sustainability practices** at school or at home.
- **Incorporate native plant species** in high school greenery or at home.
- **Look for possible ways to include natural, eco-friendly cleaning supplies** at school.
- **Design a tree-planting, fund-raiser event.**
- **Design and plan a school-wide Spring (or Fall) Cleanup** of the high school (or neighborhood) grounds.
- **Host a kickoff event** to spread awareness of the environmental club/ student ambassador program geared towards a particular topic of sustainability.
- **Organize a waste-free lunch day.**
- **Organize an art contest** only using waste products.
- **Develop a monthly newsletter** to spread awareness of sustainability trends, tips and news to school.
- **Develop a method for "green certification"** of classroom settings.
- **Create a model Earth Day Assembly** for district-wide implementation.
- **Plant a garden** at your school or at home.
- **Target a specific issue at school** such as reducing food waste and single-use plastic.

Learn more about the program, visit www.takeactionsc.org or email angieperry@greenleafedu.com.



Wholespire Aiken SC



Thank you to Nina Spinelli with Juvenile Arbitration and Wholespire Aiken for hosting a Get Moving Yoga Class on September 14, 2021 at Hopeland Gardens. Since 2007, Wholespire has provided communities with proven and sustainable approaches that lead to increased access to healthy choices. We work together to ensure an equitable South Carolina, where everyone has access to healthy choices.



Colors of Mental Health



When a person commits suicide they leave behind an average of 135 people. During the annual Aiken County Suicide Prevention Summit, Jennifer Butler from the S.C. Department of Mental Health said suicide leaves a large, lasting impact on the community — and Aiken County has one of the highest suicide rates in the state.

From April 2020 to June 2021, Aiken County received 81 EMS self-harm calls—a 34 percent increase from the previous year. EMS self-harm calls in the state of South Carolina increased 25 percent (5,667 calls).

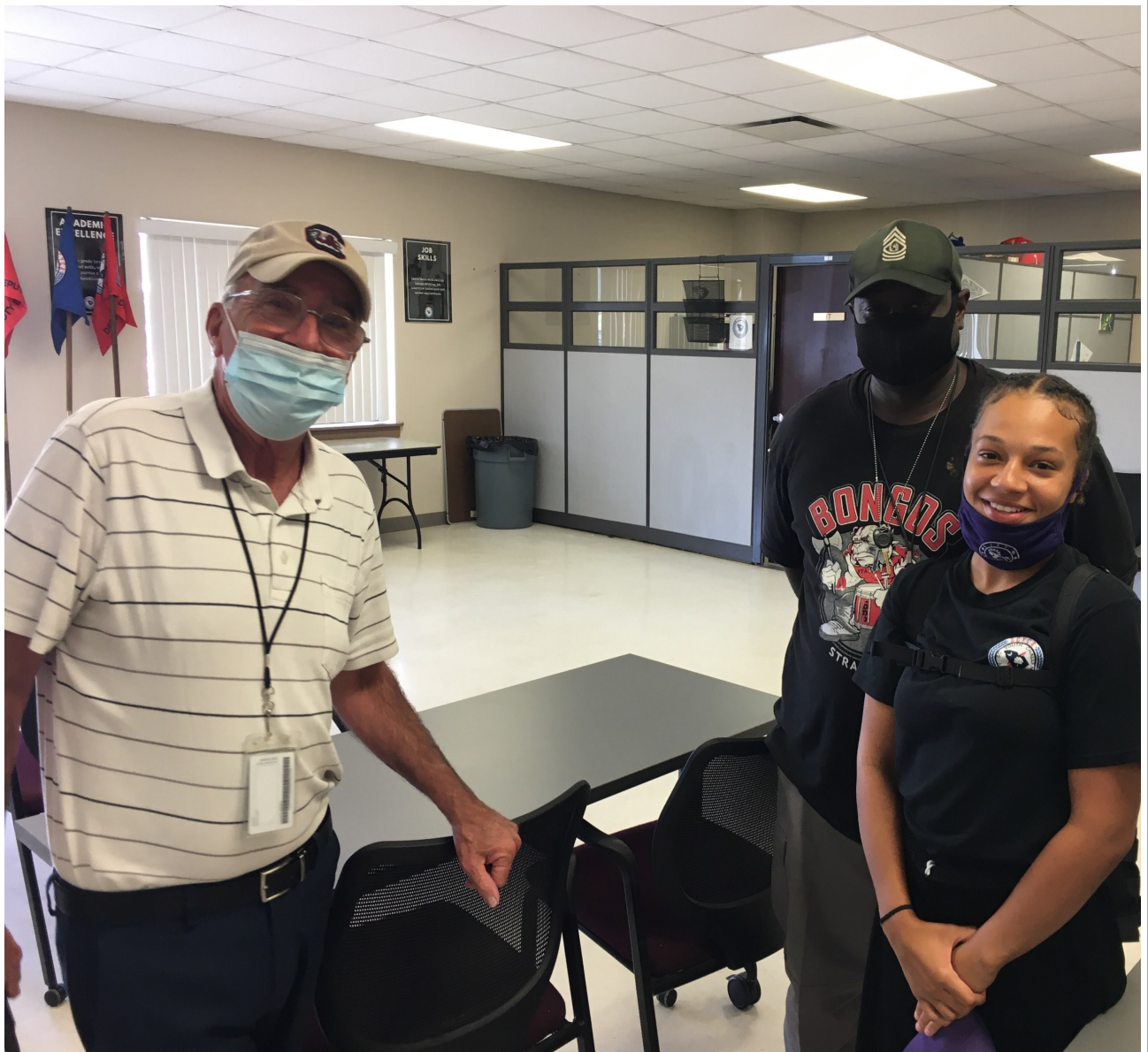
The September Suicide Prevention Summit aimed to raise awareness about suicide rates and spread information about resources that give hope to those struggling with mental health. Additionally, the Summit was the Portrait Presentation for the Colors of Mental—a program designed to help facilitate conversation on the interconnected of mental health, drug usage, and mental health. Juanita Martinez, former Juvenile Arbitration Intern, was one of the recipients.

Youth ChalleNGe Academy

Youth in the Juvenile Arbitration Program have been hard at work at the Youth ChalleNGe Academy.

The mission of the South Carolina Youth ChalleNGe Program is to build a strong partnership with youth between the ages of 16 and 18 years old in creating and maintaining a viable plan for their educational and career goals while reaffirming the skills and talents they possess.

To learn more, please visit: www.scyouthchallenge.com/about/theprogram/



SCCADVASA Workshop



scknowmore
Webinar Series

Friday, Oct. 15, 2021
10 AM – 12 PM

Presented by  **sccadvasa**
South Carolina Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition

*Breaking Down Barriers for
Indigenous Women Across S.C.
Who Experience Sexual Violence*

Presenter - Cristine Davidson
Education & Cultural Coordinator
Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition



Minnesota
Indian Women's
Sexual Assault
Coalition

Register at: <https://sc.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/714>

Grief Share



GRIEF SHARE

Grief recovery groups

Join us:

New group begins Sunday, September 26, 2021
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Cedar Creek Church, Aiken SC
Register at grief.cedarcreekchurch.net

It may be hard to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. GriefShare groups meet weekly to provide support.

Aiken Center



Tonya Avery, Prevention Services Coordinator with the Aiken Center, presented at the Addiction Awareness Community Seminar on August 28, 2021. Hosted at the Praise & Deliverance Evangelical-Apostolic Ministries, the seminar was offered by Creative Care and the Balm of Gilead to raise awareness of addiction in the community and provide support services for those in need.



Keep Aiken County Beautiful



Keep Aiken County Beautiful

Thank you to Kandace Cave, Program Coordinator, for Keep Aiken County for donating and installing a new Litter Prevention Cigarette Butt Holder for the Office of the Solicitor Annex.

The mission of Keep Aiken County Beautiful is to increase public actions and awareness of litter prevention, waste reeducation and beautification of the county.

Keep Aiken County Beautiful is a program of the Aiken County Code Enforcement Division. Keep Aiken County Beautiful is committed to ending litter, improving recycling and beautifying Aiken County. KACB utilizes various methods to achieve its goals such as:



- Community Education
- Public Awareness
- Supporting and Organizing Cleanups
- Supporting Litter Enforcement Efforts
- Leveraging Community Partners

KACB functions as an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB), a national non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the environment by empowering individuals to take greater responsibility of the protection and enhancement of their local communities.

To learn more, visit:
www.aikencountysc.gov/KACB

Aiken State Park



Community service is an important component of the Juvenile Arbitration Program and youth have been hard at work donating their time, talent and financial support to Aiken State Park and other community organizations.

Aiken State Park



Advisory Council for Educating Students with Disabilities



Nina Spinelli with the Juvenile Arbitration Program serves on the South Carolina Advisory Council for Educating Students with Disabilities (ACESD). ACESD met on August 27, 2021.

The South Carolina Advisory Council for Educating Students with Disabilities (ACESD) advises the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) of unmet educational needs of children who have disabilities. Specifically, the Advisory Council comments on:

- Proposed regulatory changes
- Data and reports
- Policies involving service coordination
- Corrective actions defined by the federal monitoring process

The ACESD envisions a world where all students are respected and challenged, where the needs of all students are met, and where the aspirations for success of all students are fulfilled.. The Advisory Council's mission is to make recommendations and influence decisions made on behalf of students with disabilities to enhance the quality of educational services they receive and to improve their outcomes.

To learn more, please visit: <https://ed.sc.gov>

Kinship Caregiver Conference

**Are you raising the child of a
relative or friend?**

**As a kinship caregiver, you are
invited to a FREE event just for you!**

Kinship Caregiver Conference!



**Charleston Marriott
Charleston, SC**



**Saturday,
October 30, 2021
8:00AM-5:00PM**

Featuring



Dr. Gerald Smalls, Esq.

Raised by his grandmother in South Carolina, he is the Chair and Associate Professor of Law and Accounting of the Johnson College of Business and Economics at USC Upstate.

This Event Includes:

Free Breakfast and Lunch!

Breakout Sessions

- Family Communication
- Self-Care
- Parenting children who have experienced trauma
- Legal and custody issues

**Community Resources,
Door Prizes and more!**

*This event is for kinship caregivers only
Childcare will not be provided.



Space is limited.

Register Today!

Call Toll-Free:

854-444-3716

*Proof of COVID vaccination or a
negative COVID test within 72 hours
will be required to attend this event

Banned Books Week



Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries. Typically held during the last week of September, it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular. Youth participating in Arbitration will pick a banned book from the week of September 23—October 2 to participate.

Suicide Prevention

TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

Suicide is preventable. Youth who are contemplating suicide frequently give warning signs. Do not be afraid to ask about suicidal thoughts. Never take warning signs lightly or promise to keep them secret.

RISK FACTORS

- Hopelessness
- Nonsuicidal self-injury (e.g., cutting)
- Mental illness and substance abuse
- History of suicidal thinking and behavior
- Prior suicide among peers or family members
- Interpersonal conflict, family stress/dysfunction
- Presence of a firearm in the home

WARNING SIGNS

- Suicidal threats in the form of direct (e.g., "I want to die") and indirect (e.g., "I wish I could go to sleep and not wake up") statements
- Suicide notes, plans, online postings
- Making final arrangements
- Preoccupation with death
- Giving away prized possessions
- Talking about death
- Sudden unexplained happiness
- Increased risk taking
- Heavy drug/alcohol use

If you or someone you know is suicidal, get help immediately via 911, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK, or the Crisis Text Line (text "HOME" to 741741).



WHAT TO DO

- Remain calm and nonjudgmental; listen.
- Ask directly about suicide (e.g., "Are you thinking about suicide?").
- Avoid being accusatory (e.g., don't say, "You aren't going to do anything stupid are you?").
- Reassure them that there is help; they will not feel like this forever.
- Provide constant supervision. Do not leave the youth alone.
- Remove means for self-harm, especially firearms.
- Get help! Never agree to keep suicidal thoughts a secret. Tell an appropriate caregiving adult.
- School staff should take the student to a school-employed mental health professional.



REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

- Continue to take threats seriously. Follow-through is important even after the child calms down or informs the parent they "didn't mean it."
- Access school supports. Parents can give the school psychologist permission to contact the referral agency, provide referral information, and follow up on the visit.
- Maintain communication with school. After an intervention, the school will also provide follow-up supports. Your communication will be crucial to ensuring that the school is the safest, most comfortable place possible for your child.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
School Psychologists

For additional guidance, visit
www.nasponline.org/safety-and-crisis.

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Psychologists, www.nasponline.org

Blessing Boxes



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle. Youth in the Juvenile Arbitration Program often turn their community service project into restocking Blessing Boxes.

Coalition for Suicide Prevention of Aiken County



On Thursday September 7, the Coalition for Suicide Prevention of Aiken meet to prepare for the annual Suicide Prevention Summit. The mission of the Coalition is to prevent suicide through community education and collaboration.

Most people who complete suicide don't want to die - they just want to stop hurting. They may not ask for help, but that doesn't mean that help isn't wanted. Suicide prevention starts with recognizing the warning signs and taking them seriously. Don't be afraid to bring up the subject if you think a friend or family member is considering suicide. Talking openly about suicidal thoughts and feelings can save a life. Most suicidal individuals give warning signs or signals of their intentions.

To learn more about the work of the Coalition, please visit: <https://preventingsuicides.org>



National Mentoring Resource Center

The National Mentoring Resource Center provides no-cost technical assistance to youth mentoring programs around their individual needs and improved implementation of specific mentoring practices. Requests are submitted through OJJDP's centralized technical assistance site—TTA360.



Wondering whether technical assistance might improve your mentoring program?

- Are you a **new mentoring organization** in need of program support for mentor recruitment and retention?
- Does your program want to learn mentoring **best practices** for managing mentoring relationships or monitoring matches?
- Are you an organization that needs help with designing a **mentor-mentee evaluation** or, develop a logic model for a grant application?

To apply, please visit: nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org/how-we-can-help/no-cost-assistance/



Community Resource—South Carolina Legal Services



SOUTH CAROLINA LEGAL SERVICES

**NO MONEY TO PAY RENT OR UTILITY
BILLS?**

**NEED HELP TO AVOID EVICTION OR
UTILITY DISCONNECTION?**

**NEED HELP APPLYING FOR RENTAL &
UTILITY ASSISTANCE?**

**NEED REPRESENTATION IN THE
EVICTION ACTION?**



**CLICK THIS LINK, SCAN THE QR
CODE, OR CALL THE TELEPHONE
NUMBERS BELOW FOR RENTAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**



**Anderson: 833-977-7368
Berkeley: 843-377-8507
Charleston: 843-202-6960
Horry: 843-492-2600
Greenville: 864-216-9195
Richland: 855-216-9198
Spartanburg: 864-595-5301
All Other Counties: 800-476-0412**

**To apply for free legal help,
call 1-888-346-5592**

**Apply online at
lawhelp.org/sc/online-intake**

**Andrea E. Loney, Exec Director
andrealoney@sclegal.org**

Range Time



The Office of the Solicitor enjoyed firearms training at the indoor range in early September.

Thank you to Investigator Christopher Walker for setting-up the time to practice.

Take Action SC



take action SC
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

K-12 Environmental Education Virtual Presentations

- Offered for Each Individual Grade Level K-12
- Aligned to S.C. Science Standards
- Integrates Science & Engineering Practices (SEPs)
- Taught from DHEC's "Action for a Cleaner Tomorrow" K-12 Curriculum Supplement
- Inquiry-Based & Highly Engaging
- Empowers Students
- No Charge



Scheduling Open Now!

takeactionsc.org

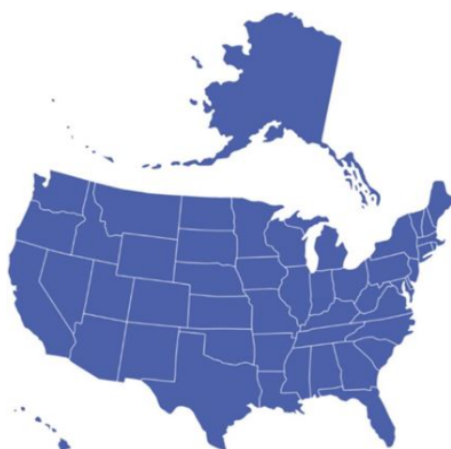
Did You Know:

The recidivism rate for the Juvenile Arbitration Program for 2017-2018 (most current stats) has fallen to **4.1%** for the entire state.

For additional information, please visit:
<https://djj.sc.gov/>

Volunteerism in America

Volunteerism in the United States 2015 Data

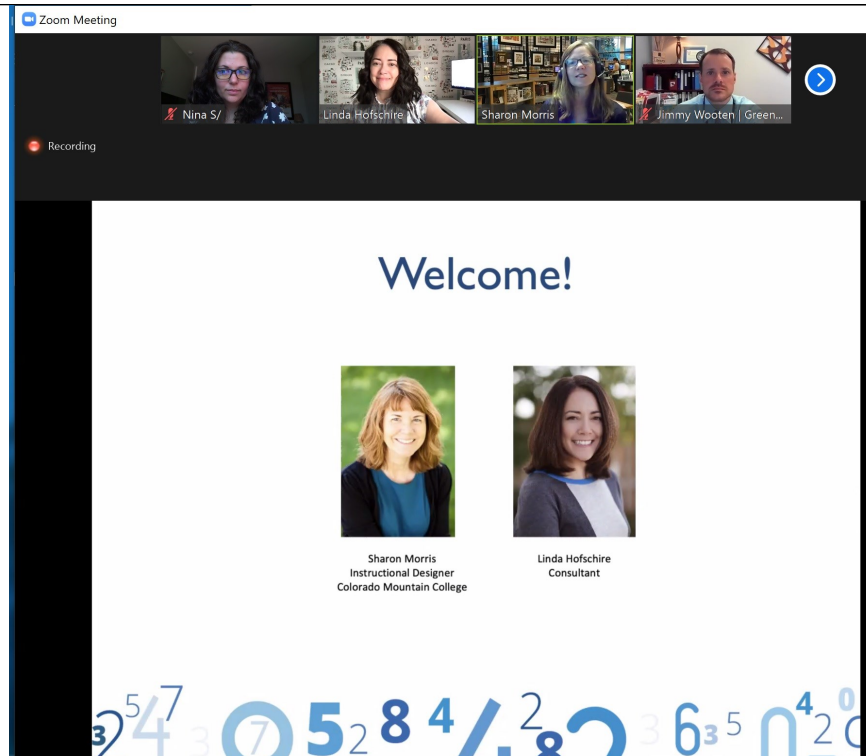


© ThinkStock

- 1 24.9% of all U.S. residents.
- 2 62.6 million volunteers.
- 3 7.9 billion hours of service per year.
- 4 \$184 billion of service per year.

Corporation for National and Community Service, <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov>

Research Institute



On September 8, Nina Spinelli with the Juvenile Arbitration Program participated with the initial meeting for the RIPL.

RIPL (Research Institute) helps organizations that are interested in getting started using data for strategic planning, learning about outcomes and how to measure impact, and, create an environment where peers can learn from one another.

Did You Know:

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For additional information, please visit:
<https://djj.sc.gov/>

Bamberg County Department of Juvenile Justice



Juvenile Arbitration covers the entire Second Circuit—Aiken, Barnwell and Bamberg Counties. Bianca Wilson (DJJ) and Serena McDaniel (Solicitor's Office) often collaborate on pending cases to help youth in our community.

Committee on Children Hearings



The Committee on Children wants to hear from you at our

2021 Fall Hearings

09/23 COLUMBIA, 10 AM-12 PM, 5-7 PM

09/30 GREENVILLE, 5-7 PM

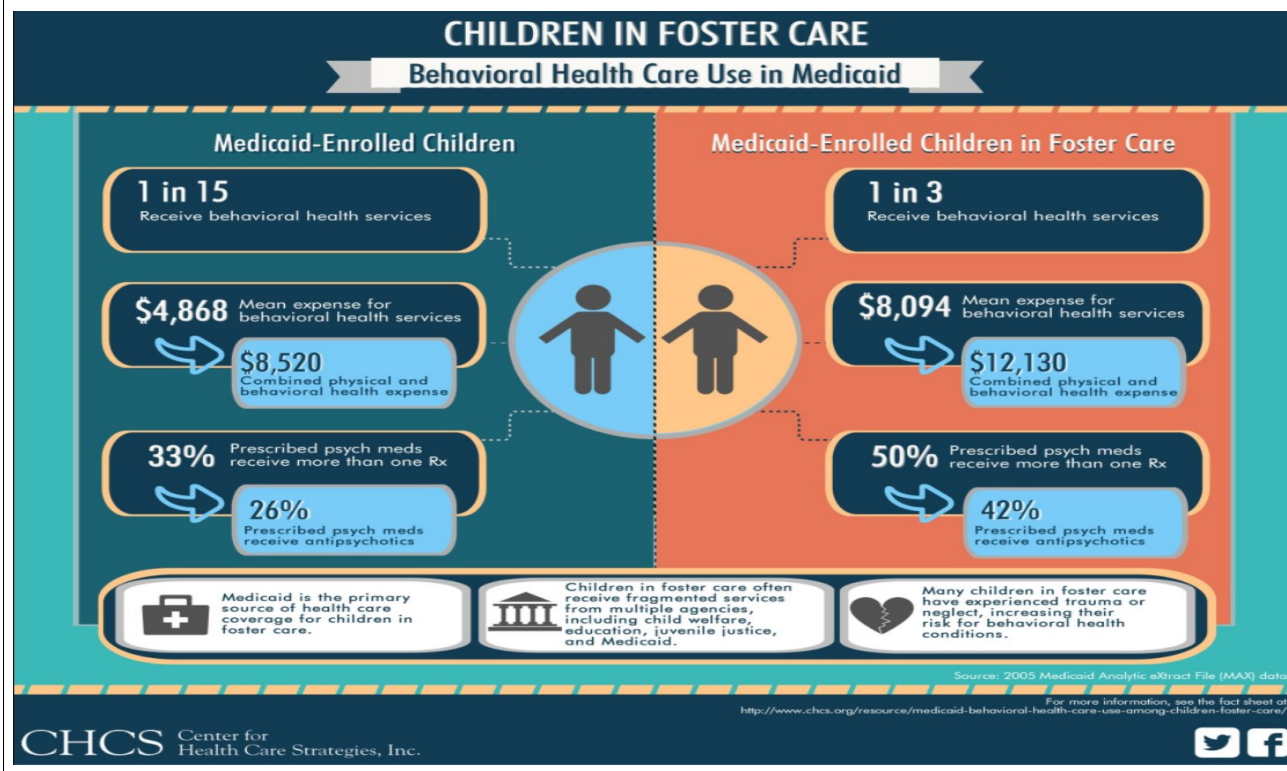
10/07 FLORENCE, 5-7 PM

10/14 CHARLESTON, 5-7 PM



If you are interested in sharing your experience of child well-being in SC, please email us at comments@mailbox.sc.edu.

Center for Health Care Strategies



SECOND CIRCUIT JUVENILE ARBITRATION PROGRAM

211 York Street, NE
Aiken, SC 29801

2nd Judicial Circuit
P.O. Drawer 3368
Aiken, SC 29802
nspinelli@aikencountysc.gov

Bill Weeks, Solicitor
Serena McDaniel,
Assistant. Solicitor
Nina Spinelli, Director

Calendar of Events

Ridge Spring ACTS
Community Service Day:
• October 20

Human Trafficking and
Internet Safety:
• October 25

Cooking Matters:
• September 10

Healing Species:
• Monday Afternoons
from October 4—
November 1

Juvenile Justice Jeopardy:
• November 2

Aiken State Park:
• October 6

#HoldOntoMe

Julia Smith (Family Court Coordinator), Serena McDaniel (Senior Assistant Family Court Solicitor), Stephanie Halling (Domestic Violence Paralegal) and Nina Spinelli (Juvenile Arbitration) celebrate #HoldOntoMe to recognize suicide prevention month and the need to maintain strong community connections.



Photo by James J. Beedling

ASK JASON REYNOLDS ANYTHING*
*ABOUT BANNED BOOKS CONTEST FOR TEENS!
Enter at bannedbooksweek.org/teen-contest/
ENTRY DEADLINE: SEPT. 17, 2021

BANNED BOOKS WEEK
September 26 - October 2, 2021
bannedbooksweek.org

Censorship Divides Us

Artwork ©2021 American Library Association

@BannedBooksWeek • @banned_books_week • #bannedbooksweek

Library Card Challenge

Youth participating with the Juvenile Arbitration Program are often sanctioned to obtain their library card.

Having their own library card helps teens learn responsibility, develop good citizenship, understand self-discipline, grow problem-solving skills, and, become more connected to positive community resources.

